

THE AMERICAN LEGION

Circulation: 544

ARTHUR E. BOUTON POST 770

Telephone 387-4212

| | | | | | | |
|-------------------|------------------------|------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|--------------------|-----------------|
| CMMDR: | Tom Stilwell | 387-5361 | Newsletter Deadline | ADJUTANT: | Phil Colvin | 387-6550 |
| AUX. PRES: | Vickii Barry | 387- 9512 | 15th Of The Month | SAL CMDR: | Brady Roach | 387-6636 |
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CALENDAR FOR APRIL

| | | | |
|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------|--|
| Tues | Apr 1 | | April Fools Day |
| | | 7:00 PM | Unit 770 American Legion Auxiliary Meeting |
| Weds | Apr 2 | 7:30 AM | Chamber of Commerce Meeting |
| Fri | Apr 4 | 6:30 PM | Rehearsal Dinner |
| Mon | Apr 7 | 6:45 PM | Bingo |
| | | 7:00 PM | Squadron 770 Sons of the American Legion Meeting |
| | | 7:00 PM | Snowmobile Club Meeting |
| Weds | Apr 9 | | National Former POW Recognition Day |
| | | Noon | Senior Citizen's Luncheon |
| | | 7:00 PM | Board of Trustees Meeting |
| Fri | Apr 11 | 5:30 – 8:00 PM | Steak & Fish Fry Dinner – Public Invited – Phil Colvin's Crew |
| Sat | Apr 12 | 6:00 PM | Private Party |
| Mon | Apr 14 | 6:45 PM | Bingo |
| | | 7: 30 PM | Post 770 American Legion Meeting – Nominating Committee Announce Slate of Officers Proposed |
| Tues | Apr 15 | | Income Tax Day |
| | | 6:30 PM | Tompkins County Joint Auxiliary and Legion Meeting Post 221 –Ithaca |
| Thurs | Apr 17 | 5:30 – 8:00 PM | American Legion Auxiliary Dinner – Public Invited |
| Sun | Apr 20 | | Passover |
| | | 1:00 PM | 6 th District American Legion Spring Meeting at Post 376 - Oxford |
| Mon | Apr 21 | 6:45 PM | Bingo |
| | | 7 :00 PM | Snowmobile Club Meeting |
| Tues | Apr 22 | | Earth Day |
| Weds | Apr 23 | 7:00 PM | Board of Trustees Meeting |
| Fri | Apr 25 | | Arbor Day |
| Sun | Apr 27 | 7:30 – 11:00 AM | Breakfast – Public Invited |
| Mon | Apr 28 | 6:45 PM | Bingo |
| | | 7:30 PM | Post 770 American Legion Meeting |
| Looking Ahead: | | | |
| Mon | May 5 | 7:00 PM | SAL Election of Officers |
| Mon | May 12 | 7:30 PM | Election of Officers |
| Sat | May 17 | 6:30 PM | Installation of Officers and Awards |

SPECIAL EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

American Legion Election of Officers: will be held at the regular Post meeting on Monday, May 12th. Commander Stilwell has appointed a nominating committee of Tom Bennett, Bill Parker, and Don Smith. If anyone is interested in running for an office, please let any one of the committee members know. It is important that we continue to provide leadership to our organization in order that we may be an intrical part of community service.

“Walk of Honor”: Inscribed bricks are not being installed right now because of the cold and snowy weather. However, we continue to take orders to be processed when the weather becomes warmer. Application forms may be found in the entryway to the lounge beneath the calendar.

CHAPLAINS CORNER

Sick Call:

Taps: Jack F. Smith: died at home on February 22, 2008 following an extended illness. Jack served in the US Army and remained in the Army ready reserve. He was a lifelong resident of Trumansburg and well known by everyone. He had a remarkable ability to remember jokes and always came forth with one to suit the occasion. His wife, Carmen, sisters, brothers, children and grand children, survives him. Jack’s friendly wave from his porch on Main Street will be sorely missed. Members of Post 770 Honors team performed a military tribute at the church immediately following the mass. After the services a luncheon was held at the American Legion for family and friends.

Joan B. Grove: passed away at the Lakeside Nursing home on Monday, March 3, 2008. Joan was the sister of member David Boyd.

Ruth Conde Farrell: passed away on March 24, 2008. Ruth was the wife of deceased member Edward J. Farrell.

Taps: In the March newsletter we included an explanation of the meaning of military honors that accompany the playing of TAPS. Let us complete this explanation with the meaning of folding the flag at military funerals.

Military Forces Honor Guard State of New York Folding of the Flag of the United States of America

The first fold of our flag is a symbol of life, The second fold is a symbol of our belief in the eternal life, The third fold is made in honor and remembrance of the veteran departing our ranks and who gave a portion of life for the defense of our country to attain peace throughout the world, The fourth fold represents our weaker nature; for as American citizens trusting in God, it is to Him we trust in times of peace as well as in times of war for His divine guidance, The fifth fold is a tribute to our country, for in the words of Stephan Decatur, “Our country, in dealing with other countries, may she always be right, but it is still our country, right or wrong.” The sixth fold is for where our hearts lie. It is with our heart that we pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all. The seventh fold is a tribute to our Armed Forces, for it is through the Armed Forces that we protect our country and our flag against all enemies, whether they be found within or without the boundaries of our republic. The eighth fold is a tribute to the one who entered into the valley of the shadow of death, that we might see the light of day, and to honor our mother, for whom it flies on Mother’s day. The ninth fold is a tribute to womanhood, for it has been through their faith, love, loyalty and devotion that the characters of the men and women who have made this country great have been molded. The tenth fold is a tribute to father, for he, too, has given his sons and daughters for the defense of our country since he or she was first born. The eleventh fold, in the eyes of Hebrew citizens, represents the lower portion of the seal of King David and King Solomon and glorifies, in their eyes, the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The twelfth fold, in the eyes of a Christian citizen, represents an emblem of eternity and glorifies, in their eyes, God the Father, the Son and Holy Ghost. When the flag is completely folded and tucked in, it takes on the appearance of a cocked hat. Ever reminding us of the soldiers who served under General George Washington and the sailors and marines who served under Captain John Paul Jones, who were followed by their comrades and shipmates in the Armed Forces of the United States, preserving for us the rights, privileges, and freedom we enjoy today.

POST NEWS

Ruth Doane has advised us that she did not donate all of the mannequins for the uniform display, only the “Navy Guy” in the hallway. The other mannequins were generously donated by one of our members. We are still looking for Marine, Army, and Air Force uniforms of average size to complete the display. ...We are approaching the last of our Lenten Friday night fish fries, which end at Easter. Attendance has dropped somewhat compared to our once a month dinners. We have had a lot of competition this winter, whether it be from basketball games, other dinner competitors, or icy and cold weather. We thank all of you who remained loyal and found a way to get to the Legion fries. ...Bingo attendance has remained about the same each Monday throughout the winter. I guess Bingo fans remain loyal whatever the conditions are. ...We were unable to attend the Superbowl or Daytona dish to pass parties held at the Post, but we can vouch for the

excitement of both events. They went right down to the wire. ...We were able to attend the Boys Scout Spaghetti dinner and the Corned Beef and Cabbage dinner put on by the Lions Club for senior citizens. Both were great dinners and by the size of the crowd, were appreciated very much. These are great community services. ...We hope those attending the March fish fries noticed the repaired sneeze guards on the salad bar. Thank you Roger Meier for your handy work in repairing them. ...According to my notes, Don Cole is the new chairperson of the Board of Trustees. Also, Jim Dew has been appointed to the Board replacing Al Richar who has resigned. ...The Post has provided funds, along with the other Posts of Tompkins County to provide medals and awards for the ROTC students at Cornell. ...Commander Stilwell has appointed a nominating committee to select candidates for the up and coming election of officers in May. This is one meeting you won't want to miss.

MEMBERSHIP

At this time we have 374 members signed up for this 2008 year. We are still about 19 short of our goal of 393. Signups and re-ups have slowed to a trickle, so lets get out there and provide a little encouragement to those veterans just waiting to be asked. Welcome new member David A. Drumheller II. It's nice to have you aboard.

AUXILIARY NEWS

Membership is at 134 seniors and 8 juniors. We are still 20 short of our 162 quota. The Kids Easter Party had 38 children attend. We have 4 juniors working at our fish fries, breakfasts and kids parties now and they are doing a great job. Dues notices come from our National Headquarters. If you get one and you have your card, just disregard the notice or call membership chairperson Dawn Smith at 387-5354 and double check with her. Our best to Barb Cole who is now home from the hospital and Jean Hovencamp who is recovering at home. On March 22nd the Post celebrated their 87th birthday. The Auxiliary presented them with a new American legion flag (used at meetings, parades, dinners, and funerals). The old one was purchased years ago. Our condolences to the Ruth Farrell family. Ruth died March 14, 2008 and she was a 50 + year Auxiliary member. The next Auxiliary dinner is April 17th serving Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, veggie and soup along with the delicious home made desserts. At the next meeting on April 1st at 7:00 PM the nominating committee will present names for new officers. Please try to attend. We gave 27 veterans a Valentine flower at Lakeside this year. Elaine Joseph is checking on getting appraisers for our Appraisal day event. More to come. Hope you had a Happy Easter. We are looking for a Poppy Princess to ride in the Memorial Day Parade. Please let us know if you think of anyone. We have 5 candidates for Girl State this year. Respectfully submitted, Marge Bennett

SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Election of Officers will take place on May 5th at our regular meeting. Nominations for these positions are now being accepted by any SAL Officer. During our next meeting on April 7th, we will spend the evening refurbishing some of the old barstools to use as back-ups. Don't forget to bring your wrench and screwdriver.

DID YOU KNOW?

From the Editor of New York American Legion Press Association, Mike Duggan.

"I had the privilege of meeting the National Commander, Marty, at the 8th district dinner that was held. As I sat there and listened to his speech, I started taking note because I was very impressed with what he was saying. Below are some of the highlights (And this can be used not only for the Legion but Auxiliary and Son's): We are own worst enemy. When we talk about the Legion (Auxiliary and Son's), we need to talk about the great things they do. Not about the members that are old, how no one wants to march, and no one wants to join. I don't care if you are a Republican or a Democrat; all I care about is that you take care of the Veterans. Start talking about the value of membership and the good things your Post has done. "Start talking about the value of the American Legion and the good things, NOT THE NEGATIVE TALK!" We need to look at the local level; they are the ones that do the great things. In order to help membership, here's an idea. Put a book out at your Post or inside your hall rental building, call it "Book of Hero's" (or something like that). So when visitors come or when renting the hall, you will get Veterans to sign the book with their name, address, and phone number. Then, have someone contact them and tell them the good things about the American Legion and what

we have done. Also, ask in your newsletters for the names and address of friends or relatives on active duty, and then send them a letter. There are many ways to get members, we just have to try and talk positive about our own organization that we work so hard for.

Membership Television Spots: Two new 30-second television spots will be produced in high-definition, digital format promoting membership in the American Legion. Following post-production, they will be available for use on broadcast and cable television systems, and will be available free on request to departments/districts/posts and broadcasters. If some posts get together in the same area and run the advertisement together, this would be a great way to get the word out.

National Membership: We are at 2,014,372 members, which is 77.4%. As compared to last year, we are 79,200 behind in total renewals and 7,200 in traditional new members. The National Commander has engaged 17 past National Commanders to call 850+ District Commanders to have them call 100% of their Post Commanders to get another push on 2008 membership renewals.